



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER & INDUSTRY SERVICES
BUREAU OF HEALTH SYSTEMS

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF LDRP AND BIRTHING ROOMS

The marketing of obstetrical services in recent years has caused the development of new birthing concepts. This information was formulated as a guide to hospital code compliance for LDRP (Labor-Delivery-Recovery-Postpartum) and birthing rooms. The definition for a birthing room is synonymous with the concept of a LDR (Labor-Delivery-Recovery) room.

A. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. The LDRP room is designated for use over 24 hours. Each LDRP shall constitute a licensed postpartum bed.
2. A birthing room is a nonlicensed room used by the patient for a period less than 24 hours.
3. Each LDRP or birthing room shall be single occupancy.
4. The LDRP or birthing room shall be:
 - a. Separated from the conventional delivery room suite; and,
 - b. Accessed through a restricted use corridor of the segregated maternity service.
5. An operational narrative shall be developed in accordance with planned birthing concepts proposed by the hospital. The operational narrative shall contain the following information:
 - a. Criteria for admission to the LDRP or Birthing Room;
 - b. Gowning and handwashing policies;
 - c. Criteria for visitors permitted in the LDRP and Birthing Room;
 - d. Indications for transfer to conventional delivery setting;
 - e. Location for storage of
 - patient valuables, and clothing
 - support equipment;
 - f. Nursery use and location;
 - g. Criteria for discharge;
 - h. Follow-up care for mother and infant;
 - i. Duration of stay;
 - j. Criteria for isolation; and,
 - k. Documentation on number of rooms needed.

B. PHYSICAL CRITERIA

1. A LDRP or birthing room shall have a minimum of 200 square feet, and be functionally usable.
2. A minimum of one room shall be immediately accessible and equipped for emergency caesarean sections. The room shall have an area of 360 square feet. The surgical suite may be used for caesarean sections if consistent with hospital policy.
3. The LDRP or birthing room shall contain a bed that can provide lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions.
4. Each LDRP and birthing room shall have access to an adjoining toilet room with shower.
5. Outside windows must be available in the LDRP and may be available in the birthing room with provisions for privacy.
6. Finishes may be selected to create a "homelike" environment, but shall facilitate ease of cleaning.
7. The LDRP or birthing room shall contain a handwash lavatory with gooseneck inlet and wrist, knee, or foot controls. Soap and single use towels shall be provided.
8. Each LDRP or birthing room shall be ventilated to maintain a minimum of two (2) total outdoor air changes per hour.
9. Heating, or air conditioning systems shall maintain temperatures between 70 and 75 degrees F., in each LDRP and birthing room.
10. A minimum of two (2) oxygen and two (2) vacuum outlets shall be available in each LDRP and birthing room. Oxygen and vacuum outlets shall be accessible for the mother and newborn infant.
11. An emergency communication system shall be available in each LDRP and birthing room. The system shall connect directly to a nurse station in the obstetrical department.
12. The following light levels shall be maintained:
 - a. 20 footcandles of general illumination in each LDRP or birthing room.
 - b. 30 footcandles at reading locations and in each toilet room.
 - c. 3 footcandles for night lighting in the LDRP room and toilet room.
 - d. Portable or fixed mounted examination lamps with variable light intensities in LDRP and birthing rooms.

13. Service and support space shall be available consistent with applicable standards.

Program Review should be submitted to:

Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services
Division of Health Facilities & Services
Health Facilities Evaluation Section
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